

Tornado

Actions to Consider BEFORE a Tornado:

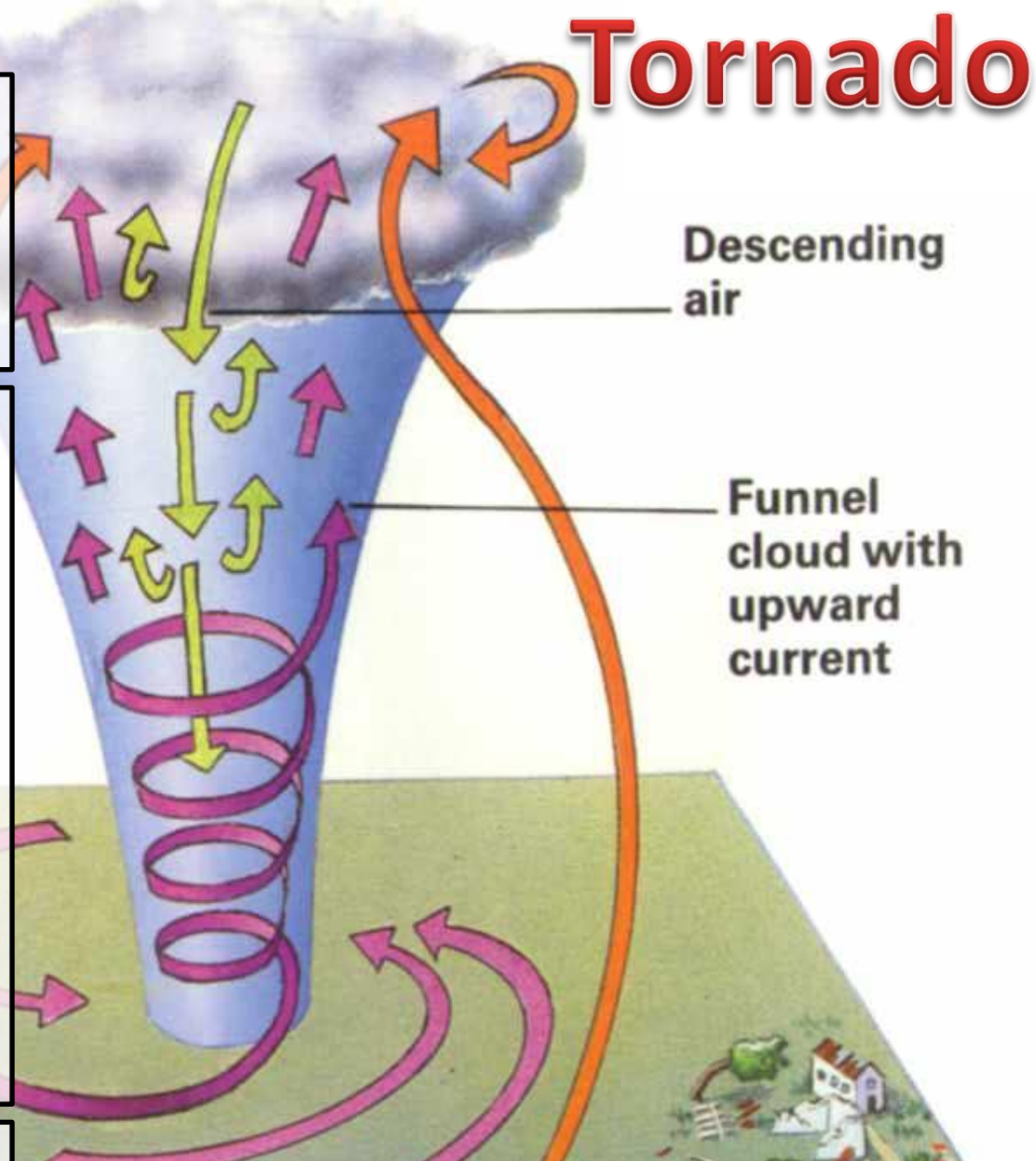
- Pick a place where family members could gather if a tornado is headed your way. It could be your basement or if there is no basement, a center hallway, bathroom, or closet on the lowest floor.
- If you are in a high-rise building, you may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor. Find a place in a hallway near the center of the building.
- Above all, avoid exterior walls and windows.

Actions to Consider DURING a Tornado:

- **Home** – Go at once to a windowless interior room, storm cellar, basement, or the lowest level of the building.
- Get under and hold on to a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench, heavy table or desk.
- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- Get out and find shelter elsewhere if in a mobile home.
- **Work** – Go to the basement or to an inside hallway at the lowest level.
- Avoid places with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums, cafeterias, or large hallways.
- Get under a piece of sturdy furniture and use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- **Outdoors** – Get inside a building or shelter if possible.
- If shelter is not available or there is no time to get indoors, lie in a ditch or low-lying area and use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- **Vehicle** – Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas, get out of the car immediately and take shelter in a nearby building.
- If there is no time to get indoors, get out of the car and lie in a ditch away from vehicles. Be aware of the potential for flooding.

Actions to Consider AFTER a Tornado:

- Watch out for broken glass, fallen power lines, and do not enter damaged areas until told it is safe to do so.
- Do not use candles or open flame; combustibles may be present.
- Use caution when entering a damaged building.



- **Tornado Watch** – Issued when conditions are favorable for the formation of tornadoes.
- **Tornado Warning** – Issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.